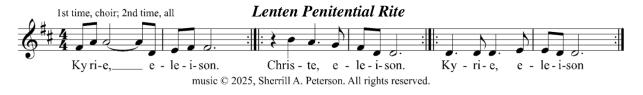


BB#147

- Let us ever glory in the cross of Christ, our salvation and our hope. Let us bow in homage to the Lord of Life, who was broken to make us whole. There is no greater love, as blessed as this: to lay down one's life for a friend. Let us ever glory in the cross of Christ and the triumph of God's great love.
- 2 Let us make our journey to the cross of Christ, who surrendered glory and grace. To become a servant of the great and small, that all people may know God's face. Though his birth was divine, he knelt as a slave, tow ash common dust from our feet. Let us ever glory in the cross of Christ and the triumph of God's great love.



Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 126: The Lord Has Done Great Things



 Mass:
 Mass of Creation

 Holy: #868,
 Memorial Acclamation: #869,
 Amen: #870,
 Lamb of God: #871

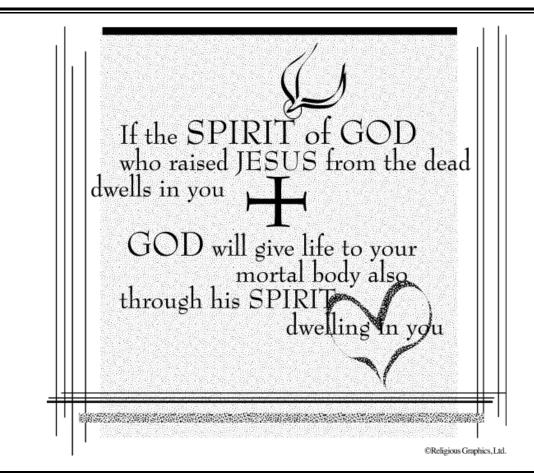
 Communion Song:
 Stand by Me
 BB#400

 Refrain:
 Stand by me, stand by me. Lift me up from the restless sea.
 BB#400,

 When I am lost, when love can't be found, when no one cares, Lord, stand by me.
 Stand by me.

Closing Song: Take Up Your Cross BB#702 Refrain: Take up your cross, take up your cross, take up your cross and follow me. Take up your cross, take up your cross, take up your cross and follow me.

5th Sunday of Lent April 6, 2025



Rev. Jojo Puthussery, MF Pastor, (707) 996-8422 ext. 13 V Email: <u>office@stleosonoma.org</u> 601 W. Agua Caliente Rd., Sonoma, CA 95476 P.O. Box 666, Boyes Hot Springs, CA 95416 Parish Office, (707) 996-8422 Fax, (707) 996-3984

St. Leo Catholic Church Website: www.stleosonoma.org



Mass Times

Saturday Mass: 5:00 p.m.

8:00 a.m. Spanish 9:30 a.m. English 11:30 a.m. Spanish

Sunday Masses:

<u>Confession</u>: 4:30 p.m., Saturdays 6:30 p.m., Wednesdays

Our website: www.stleosonoma.org

Weekday Mass: 8:30 a.m. M, W – F (no Mass on Tuesday) 7:00 p.m. – Wed. – Spanish Mass

େ Sacraments ଓ Baptisms and Weddings Call the office, (707) 996-8422

MASS INTENTIONS: April 5th – April 13th

5:00 p.m. Fr. Mike Kelly + Sat. 5 Sun. 6 9:30 a.m. Dolores Gater, Special intention 8:30 a.m. Rosalie Levesque + Mon. 7 Tues. 8 NO MASS Wed. 9 8:30 a.m. Caroline & Ron Foster + Thurs. 10 8:30 a.m. Jerry Shafer + 8:30 a.m. All Souls, Special intention Fri. 11 Sat. 12 5:00 p.m. Rich Facciola + 9:30 a.m. Vanessa Wardwell, happy bday Sun. 13

FISCAL LOG: March 29 / 30

Sunday Collection: \$3,720.

2024 ANNUAL PARISH CAMPAIGN UPDATE 130 Parishioners pledged: \$124,919.38 86%

CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

	SANCTUARY LAMP
May 11	Mother's Day
May 7	Confirmation Mass, 6:30PM
May 3	First Communion Mass, 10AM
April 26/27	2 nd Collection – Catholic Home Mission
April 26	Bocce Opening Day
April 22	1 st Grief Support session, 10:30AM, FINN
April 20	Easter Sunday
April 18	Collection – The Holy Land
April 15	Men's Club Monthly Dinner Meeting, 6PM
April 12	FC Workshop
April 5/6	2 nd Collection – St Leo Development Fund

SANCTUARY LAMP Dedication for April Familia Herrera Luna

2nd COLLECTION THIS WEEKEND:

The first weekend of the month is dedicated to the St. Leo's Development Fund. Donations to this very important collection help pay for the upkeep of the parish compound buildings, and grounds.

SPARE CHANGE LENTEN FUNDRAISER: This year the funds will support the construction of a chapel at the orphanage served by the Missionaries of Faith. Currently, two classrooms are being used for Mass, limiting space for education. By relocating the chapel, these classrooms can be repurposed. Jars are available in the Ushers Room. If our jars are all gone, any receptacle will work. Thank you!

LILIES IN MEMORIAM: If you would like a lily in memory of a special person, please send your check of \$10. Payable to St Leo's Ladies Guild along with the loved one's name to: Michelle Levesque, St Leo's Parish, PO Box 666, Boyes Hot Springs, CA 95416.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT: Friday mornings following the 8:30 a.m. Mass, **English** Friday evenings at 7:00 p.m., **Spanish**

LENTEN TREE OF PETITIONS: Cards on which to write your petitions are located near the entrance of the church. Once your petition or prayer is written, you may hang it on the tree where it will remain until Holy Saturday.

PLASTIC EASTER EGGS NEEDED FOR RE:

Rosa, our Religious Education coordinator, is seeking donations of empty plastic eggs for the RE students. Donations can be dropped off at the parish office or in the church in the designated receptacle.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES:

Visit www.srdiocese.org/employment-opportunities to

see what positions are available in our parishes and schools.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP – SESSION 2:

Parishioner, Marie Hall, LCSW has graciously agreed to host another 8 session Grief Support Group beginning Tuesday, April 22nd, 10:30a.m. – 11:30a.m. in the Finnegan Center. Marie will be taking the names of anyone interested following this weekend's Sat., 5pm and Sun., 9:30am Masses. If you would like more info. or to talk to Marie, please call her cell (925)759-0725. MAD HATTERS NEED YOUR EXTRA YARN: Happy colored yarn. Please NO BABY yarn. If you have extra, please drop off in the Ushers room or the parish office.

Missed Opportunities

It's during the cemetery scene in James Joyce's classic novel *Ulysses*, amid all its memorial statues, that Leopold Bloom recalls the raising of Lazarus in John's Gospel and there occurs to him an old Irish witticism: "Come forth, Lazarus! And he came fifth and lost the job."

How many missed opportunities do we experience in our lives? "Opportunity knocks," they say, offering us ever-new horizons to explore - but we are so often deaf to it. For instance, there was that Dutch girl (en route to Goucher College) whom I met by the railing of a Holland America transatlantic liner the evening before our arrival in New York. I was a seminarian returning from Rome, only 25 years old, and a vague thought of changing my vocation occurred to me – but I let the occasion pass. Sixty-two years later I still wonder whatever became of her. How many tales or stories tell of sudden detours that carry one into new dimensions – like the rabbit hole in *Alice in Wonderland* or the wardrobe in *The Chronicles of Narnia* - that open up into a world of often redeeming adventure?

As I mentioned, I did continue on as a seminarian to complete my theology training – but became restless. Maybe it was due to my native ignorance, but theology was dry as dust to me in the abstract, technical, unimaginative format in which it was taught. In retrospect I realize I was not challenged to think but to recite textbook formulae so that I looked forward to graduation when I could relate to people instead of books.

But then another opportunity opened up. I was sent on to study Scripture - in depth, not superficially like a fundamentalist but with all the tools available to human intelligence and an awakened imagination. Thence, in the study, contemplation, and fascination I experienced with biblical drama, images, themes, and inspiration I passed through an open door I'm so glad I didn't miss – without which I feel I might still be adrift down an endless corridor of closed doors or opportunities that by comparison offered only a series of dead ends.

And so, Thomas, who missed that first Easter Sunday opportunity to see the risen Jesus, was fortunate enough to be present on the following Sunday when he had a second chance – and I like to think that he never had to prove Jesus was alive by touching his wounds. I like to think he felt, like I did after an in-depth immersion in biblical wisdom and drama, a sense of discovery that could only be expressed in the way my mother used to express a moment of profound surprise – with words akin to "Oh my God!" A theological expression loaded with awe!

How many Sunday opportunities to experience Christ raised from death and the deadliness of a meaningless world, Christ tangible in bread and wine and radiant with words like "Peace be with you!" – how many Sundays have you (like Thomas) missed that opportunity because of distraction or a lack of understanding of what the Eucharist is all about, or an inability to understand the Scripture readings? Not to worry, for like Thomas another chance of resurrection awaits you every Sun-Day, the first day of a new week, a new life if you can only in some way be present to the meaning, the permeation of it all. But of course, that means attendance, *attentive* attendance, a readiness to allow Christ to pass through whatever door you hide behind.

(Reprint from 4/7/2015)

Geoff Wood